

# TALKING BOOKS



A regular weekly sight at the Society is Mr. Paul Blank and Mrs. Hilda Crandall loading our station wagon with ten to fifteen talking book machines for delivery to the U.S. Post office for shipment to handicapped persons throughout Northwestern Ohio.

The talking book service, once exclusively for the blind, is now bringing hours of entertainment and useful information to many new users throughout Northwestern Ohio. These record players and access to the library of literally hundreds of thousands of recorded books and magazines are now available—free of charge—to those who cannot hold a book for any number of other physical handicaps.

According to Mrs. Hilda Crandall who is in charge of the service, the Society now has more than 950 of the machines in circulation in our area. Distribution and servicing of the machines is done through the Toledo Society for the Blind, with the repair work done voluntarily by the Pioneer Club, the organization of retired telephone repairmen.

If you know of anyone who could use a talking book machine, have them contact Mrs. Crandall at the Society for further information.

## Bequests To The Society

All of us at some time consider what will be done with our life's accumulations after we are gone; and, when we have arranged our affairs to take care of our responsibilities, many of us want the satisfaction of knowing that there will be no end to our participation in the affairs of people and institutions in which we are interested.

Yet, we may not take the simple step—making a bequest to a cause in which we have interest. Perhaps we think our estate is too small. Perhaps we just “put it off.” At any rate, too many let the opportunity get by to make their lives endure.

Because of this, a number of our members have suggested that we point out to others how they can make permanent their participation in the work of the Toledo Society for the Blind by arranging their wills to include a bequest to the Society. The form below has been prepared as a guide for this purpose; it is suggestive only, to be adapted or rewritten by legal counsel in each individual case.



John Goerlich

The most useful type of bequest is one that is unrestricted and permits the Society's Board of Trustees to apply the bequest to the need which is most pressing at the time the bequest is released. If you want to know more about our work or needs, call 243-8943, and we will arrange for a visit by you to the Society, or we will visit you at your home.

## BEQUEST

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Toledo Society for the Blind, a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Ohio, and located in Toledo, Ohio, \_\_\_\_\_ (dollars, or percentage of your estate) to be used at the discretion of the Toledo Society for the Blind.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

# The Toledo Society For The Blind NEWS

A NEWS LETTER TO HELP YOU BECOME BETTER INFORMED ABOUT THIS RED FEATHER AGENCY

Vol. 8 No. 1—June, 1971

1819 Canton Avenue

Telephone 243-8239



## Help Wanted

Looking for interesting part-time work? We have just the job for you. How about one of the many projects conducted by the Toledo Society for the Blind? Volunteers are needed in many areas including our eye screening program for preschool youngsters, mailing programs, summer camp activities, reading for the blind, serving for our family nights and other social functions, or just lending a helping hand with driving, shopping, or visiting with our visually handicapped neighbors.

Sharing your time and talents with others is one of the most rewarding and satisfying experiences of life. Please call Mrs. G. Frazier, our volunteer coordinator at 419-243-8239 and let her know how you can help.

Volunteers in the Preschool Vision Screening Program usually work in teams of three. The photo at left was taken at Jerusalem School in Oregon where Mrs. Waldo Schauweker, Mrs. Edward Knight, and Mrs. John H. Griffin, from left, check Alice DeAnda's eyes for possible vision defects.

## An Early Reminder About Your 1971 Holiday Cards

We want to thank everyone who complimented the exceptionally beautiful selection of holiday cards available from the Society last year. The value of this program is evidenced by the growing number of orders we received—which in turn enables the Society to continue its many “extra curricular” programs not provided for by the United Appeal Funds. Among these are summer camp, eye screening for the young, the community medical eye clinic at St. Vincent Hospital, family nights, help for the blind bowlers, and the annual visit from Santa with gifts for our blind children.

For the holidays this year, we feel the Society's card selection is the finest yet. If you would like to receive samples of these lovely cards, merely fill in the enclosed card and drop it in the mail.

If you choose to order the cards, remember you will be neither charged nor billed for them. Instead, we ask that you make a contribution to the Society. Anything over the amount you normally pay for your holiday cards is tax deductible.

If you wish, the cards may also be imprinted with your name, but please allow \$3.00 for this extra service.



# Sign Posts

Since our last newsletter, the work of staffing and equipping the new Rehabilitation Program has been moving ahead at full speed.

In May, we had eleven clients enrolled in this program including four from out of town who live in our student residence at 813 Ontario.

New staff members are Despina Chakmaki, Rehabilitation Counselor; Robert Timmons, Work Evaluator; Virginia Wager, Instructor Personal Adjustment; and Cheryl Inskeep, Department Aid.

\* \* \*

Statistics now show that for every dollar a community invests in rehabilitation, it receives \$8.00 in return.

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In total, the Society's case count of blind and visually handicapped persons is 1,195, with an average of another 1,000 persons per month receiving sight saving information from our staff through direct calls, film showings, lectures, or tours of the Society.

Also, reflecting the activity of our sheltered workshop, the Society issued 158 W-2's for \$218,940.22 in full and part-time wages for 1971.

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Cupid's arrow struck the Society twice in early Spring, ringing wedding bells for two of our Blind members.

Verlie Deselms and Ralph Hart were married in February, while Cheryl Lewis and Larry Inskeep tied the knot in March.

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February was also an exciting month for Josephine Brooks, one of our visually handicapped bowlers. In the Ohio Bowling Association Tournament, she bowled games of 167-150 and 231, a total of 548!

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In Ohio the law now requires drivers to stop at the sign of a raised white cane. And you will see more blind persons walking alone today. Not because there are more of us, but because we have learned to make our own way.

## New Board Member

The Society is very proud to announce the election of Charles E. Trauger to its Board of Directors.

Mr. Trauger, President and Secretary of the United Savings and Loan Association and member of the Toledo Lions Club, is known and respected for his active participation in community affairs.

His proven leadership and broad experience are a great asset to the Society.



Charles E. Trauger

## Volunteers Aid Society In Helping Head Start Children



Mr. George Lober and friends.

A station wagon bearing the words "Toledo Society for the Blind" pulls up at St. Vincent Hospital.

A grandfatherly-looking gentleman herds a group of five youngsters into the building.

The gentleman is Mr. George E. Lober, retired Executive Vice President of Superior Spinning and Stamping Company.

The children are from the Head Start program in Toledo's inner city, and they go to the hospital for eye tests available to them through the Toledo Society for the Blind.

On Fridays, Mr. Lober picks up children from their homes, drives them to St. Vincent's for eye tests, waits for them, then takes them back home.

Mr. Lober started driving for the Society in March of this year, filling in for Mr. Paul Neeper who had to cease these duties because of ill health.

Mr. Neeper and his wife, however, still do work for the Society, coordinating eye examinations with the children's mothers and with Mr. Lober's driving schedule.

Mr. Lober says he finds this work with the children very rewarding—and from watching him with the youngsters, it is obvious they like him, too.

"Sometimes they're a little scared and nervous," he said, "but after awhile they relax and we all have a good time."

Volunteers like Mr. Lober and the Neepers help the Society to perform an invaluable service to the mothers of the Head Start children.

Many of these mothers work, attend school, or do not have access to a car—making it impossible for them to take their children to the hospital for the eye examinations. So a volunteer driver is essential.

The eye clinic itself is operated by 12 of Toledo's top ophthalmologists who donate their time to this Society-sponsored program.

These men are Dr. A. J. Alter, Dr. J. W. Draheim, Dr. H. P. Drake, Dr. D. E. Eriksen, Dr. E. J. Garvin, Dr. R. D. Kiess, Dr. R. H. Koop, Dr. J. M. Roberts, Dr. C. W. Smith, Dr. F. W. Taylor, Dr. R. T. Torchia, and Dr. R. W. Willard.

The fact that these professionals have volunteered their valuable time to this program indicates that proper eye care at an early age is crucial. Detection of optical difficulties at that time could alleviate visual problems or even prevent blindness in later years.

## Meet Mrs. Wawrzyniak

Recently the Toledo Blade reported, "Box office attendants at the Toledo Masonic Auditorium were surprised when they received an order for two tickets to Mazowsze, the Polish Dance Troupe, from a blind woman—and she said she's bringing a blind friend."

Actually they wouldn't have been surprised if they had had the pleasure of knowing the woman, Mrs. Donald Wawrzyniak of Oakwood Avenue, and her love of music. Mrs. Wawrzyniak lost her sight shortly after the birth of her fifth child some sixteen years ago, but she has not lost any of her verve for life.

More importantly, she has the marvelous aptitude of sharing her vivacity with her family and friends. Each of Mrs. Wawrzyniak's five children play guitar and each has sung in church choir or school musicals. "All of us at home love music," she says. "We have lots of it and as a matter of fact, I'm now taking piano lessons—at my age!"

About the Polish Dance Troupe, Mrs. Wawrzyniak explained, "I usually go with some member of the family, but my friend Mrs. Stella Korzec wanted to see the dancers too, so I went with her. Mrs. Korzec is legally blind, but she can see a little, and with the help of the many thoughtful people in the world we get along just fine."

As for myself, I could hear the music and feel the dancing—and it was thrilling."

All of us at the Society think it's thrilling knowing people like Mrs. Wawrzyniak!



Mrs. Wawrzyniak with her friend and piano teacher, Mr. Rudy Macey.

## Happy Times



Mrs. Leota DeCoursey, president of Happy Times, conducts the business meeting.



Happy Times ladies are entertained by The Minnie Pearl Grandmothers' Club.

"Happy Times" is an appropriate title for the ladies' group of the Toledo Society for the Blind since happy times are indeed what ensue at their meetings.

Each month a different women's club from the Toledo metropolitan area—such as the Minnie Pearl Grandmothers' Club, the Toledo Navy Mothers, the Women's Club of Toledo Home Builders, or the Glass City Grandmothers' Club—plays hostess to the Society's Happy Times group which meets at the Society headquarters on Canton Avenue.

As part of their charitable activities, the women's club members provide a luncheon and entertainment for the Happy Times members.

The blind ladies are picked up in cabs from their homes and driven to the Society for this enjoyable activity that takes place the first Wednesday of every month.

After the luncheon, the Happy Times ladies have a short business meeting—the secretary's minutes are read from Braille—and the program is presented, followed by a bit of gossip and chattering. Then it's time for the ladies to be driven back home after spending a pleasant afternoon with friends!

About 25 ladies participate in and look forward to the Happy Times meetings and the women's clubs that play hostess to them really enjoy this activity, too.

All in all, a Happy Time is had by everyone involved.